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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Shuichi HIRATA et al. Confirmation No.: 3667

Appln. No. : 10/596,218 Examiner: P. D. Kim

Filed: June 5, 2006 Group Art Unit: 3729

For : METHOD OF CONTROLLING CONTACT LOAD IN ELECTRONIC

COMPONENT MOUNTING APPARATUS

INTERVIEW SUMMARY AND RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.116

Commissioner for Patents
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Customer Service Window, Mail Stop <u>AF</u>
Randolph Building
401 Dulany Street
Alexandria, VA 22314

Sir:

In response to the Final Office Action of October 31, 2007, in which a three-month shortened statutory period for response was set to expire on January 31, 2008, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of each of the outstanding rejections, as well as an indication of the allowability of each of the claims now pending.

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 2 of this paper. Remarks begin on page 7 of this paper.